

AGENDA ITEM #

July 12, 2002

To: Delta Protection Commission

From: Margit Aramburu, Executive Director

Subject: Briefing on CALFED's North Delta Improvements for Conveyance, Flood Control and Ecosystem Benefits
(For Commission Information Only)

Background:

In 1990, the Department of Water Resources released a Draft Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement entitled "North Delta Program". The purpose of the DEIR/EIS was to recommend a solution to repeated and extensive flooding of the leveed tracts and island due to limited channel capacities and inadequate, nonproject levees. The DEIR/EIS included a preferred alternative to dredge the South Fork of the Mokelumne and enlarge the Delta Cross Channel.

The environmental document was never finalized, and the North Delta Program came under the CALFED umbrella. Delta Protection Commission staff has been participating in meetings on the North Delta project since August 1998.

The CALFED Record of Decision (August 2000) describes several actions in the North Delta:

- Evaluate and implement improved operational procedures for the Delta Cross Channel to address fishery and water quality concerns.
- Simultaneously evaluate a screened through-Delta facility on the Sacramento River of up to 4,000 cfs.
- **Design and construct floodway improvements in the North Delta (such as on the lower Mokelumne River and Georgiana Slough) to provide conveyance, flood control and ecosystem benefits).**

The North Delta floodway improvements are now under the oversight and management of Department of Water Resources with Gwen Knittweis as project manager.

More information, including a White Paper describing preliminary project alternatives is available from the Internet: www.mcwatershed.org. On the home page, scroll to "Projects".

Attachments:

Map of Study

Schedule